



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/189,615 | 11/09/1998 | NIELS GEBAUER | 33012/246 | 5678 |

7590 05/20/2005

CHARLES A JOHNSON
UNISYS CORPORATION
PO BOX 64942
MS 4772
ST PAUL, MN 55164

EXAMINER

ROBINSON, GRETA LEE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2167

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/189,615

Applicant(s)

GEBAUER, NIELS

Examiner

Greta L. Robinson

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 July 2004 and 01 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application.
2. Claims 2, 13, 16 and 18 have been amended.

Drawings

3. The drawings were received on July 16, 2004. These drawings are acceptable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cool ICE User's Guide release 1.0 in view of Madan et al. A Distributed Real-Time Database For Heterogeneous Computer Control Systems.

Regarding claim 1, COOL ICE teaches a data processing environment having a user terminal which is generates a service request coupled to a publicly accessible digital communications network and having a data base management system which received and responds to said service request when available, the improvement comprising:

a server coupled to said terminal via said publically accessible digital communications network and coupled to said data base management system wherein said server includes an administration management system [note: figure 1-1 Cool ICE environment; page 1-4 designing web services; figures 1-2 and 1-4; page 1-8 through 1-10, page 1-15].

Although Cool ICE teaches the invention substantially as cited above, it does not teach transferring an unavailability message to said user terminal in response to said service request when said data base management system is unavailable to receive and respond to said service request. Madan et al. teaches this feature. **Madan et al.** teaches that when the kernel receives a request for access to a particular data it checks to see if it is available, it frames a message and sends a request, after performing the transaction it returns the status of the transaction to the client application [note: abstract and introduction page 435; note objectives, section B and C page 436; section D message framework page 438; and figure 5 note message status parameter]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to have combined Madan et al with Cool ICE User's Guide because Madan et al is concerned with extending the construct of proprietary database systems into open systems that can handle divers tasks. Madan et al teaches all communication is through a set of predefined messages and that a status message is an important message that can be implemented with a high level language for communication [page 438].

6. Regarding claims 2-5: a repository for storing said unavailability message [note Madan et al., figure 5; also note design of system tables page 426].

7. The limitations of claims 6-22 have been addressed above in claims 1-5, except for the following: transferring an unavailability message to said user terminal if said determining step determines data base management system is not currently capable of honoring said service request [note: Madan page 435 through 436 the Kernel checks the nodes to see which is available and transfer appropriate transaction].

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed July 16, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In the response Applicant argued the Examiner did not make a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Prior art reference COOL ICE does not teach all the claimed limitations and Madan et al. does not make up for any deficiencies within the COOL ICE reference. Applicant states Madan et al. does not make consideration that the data is not available; the "unavailability message" indicates unavailability of the data base management system. COOL ICE teaches the transfer of messages [note: Figure 1-2 and 1-7; page 1-3, 1-4, 1-23 and 2-8]; they do not explicitly disclose that the message is a status message letting the system know availability or unavailability, however Madan et al. discloses that when the kernel receives a request for access to a particular data it checks to see if it is available, it frames a message and sends a request, after

Art Unit: 2167

performing the transaction it returns the status of the transaction to the client application [note: abstract and introduction page 435; note objectives, section B and C page 436; section D message framework page 438; and figure 5 note message status parameter]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to have combined Madan et al with Cool ICE User's Guide because Madan et al is concerned with extending the construct of proprietary database systems into open systems that can handle divers tasks. Also, Madan et al teaches all communication is through a set of predefined messages and that a status message is an important message that can be implemented with a high level language for communication [page 438].

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Laggis et al. US Patent 5,109,515

Yunoki US Patent 5,379,383

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

Art Unit: 2167

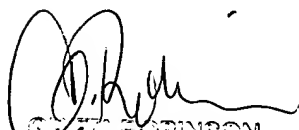
TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greta L. Robinson whose telephone number is (571) 272-4118. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2167



GRETA ROBINSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Greta Robinson
Primary Examiner
May 18, 2005